

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) An aircraft having a fuselage comprising an outer skin, said aircraft comprising:

a cargo deck being adapted to receive loads and comprising a plurality of floor modules, which are fixed within ~~the~~ a cargo compartment and define said cargo deck, and

a plurality of longitudinal profiles attached to ribs running about an inner circumference of the skin, the ribs connected to said outer skin, and

wherein each of said floor modules comprises at least a first and a second transverse beams that extend across of a width of said aircraft, each end of said transverse beams resting on an upper surface of a respective one of said longitudinal profiles,

each of said floor modules comprises a plurality of profile elements that extend in a longitudinal direction of said aircraft along a respective upper surface of at least one of said floor modules, said plurality of profile elements comprising at least one peripheral profile located at an edge region of the respective floor module proximate to said outer skin; and

said at least one peripheral profile is connected to said outer skin by means of a plurality of intermediate elements such that forces in said longitudinal direction of said aircraft are transferred from said at least one peripheral profile to said outer skin, whereas forces perpendicular to said longitudinal direction of said aircraft are

transferred ~~only very slightly to said outer skin by said intermediate elements.~~ to the ribs.

2. (Currently Amended) An aircraft having a fuselage comprising an outer skin, said aircraft comprising:

a cargo compartment being adapted to receive loads and comprising a plurality of floor modules, which are fixed within the cargo compartment and define a cargo deck, and

a plurality of longitudinal profiles attached to ribs running about an inner circumference of the skin, the ribs connected to said outer skin,

wherein each of said floor modules comprises at least a first and a second transverse beams that extend across of a width of said aircraft, each end of said transverse beams resting on an upper surface of a respective one of said longitudinal profiles,

each of said floor modules comprises a plurality of profile elements that extend in a longitudinal direction of said aircraft along a respective upper surface of at least one of said floor modules, said plurality of profile elements comprising at least one peripheral profile located at an edge region of the respective floor module proximate to said outer skin; and

said at least one peripheral profile is connected to said outer skin by means of a plurality of intermediate elements such that forces in said longitudinal direction of said

aircraft are transferred from said at least one peripheral profile to said outer skin, whereas forces perpendicular to said longitudinal direction of said aircraft are transferred ~~only very slightly to said outer skin by said intermediate elements~~ to the ribs, wherein said transverse beam having at least one supporting foot configured and adapted to be fastened to the fuselage of said aircraft at a bottom region of said aircraft, the supporting foot being adapted to transmit vertical loads on the floor modules to the fuselage.

3. (Currently Amended) An aircraft having a fuselage comprising an outer skin, said aircraft comprising:

a cargo compartment being adapted to receive loads and comprising a plurality of floor modules, which are fixed within the cargo compartment and define a cargo deck, and

a plurality of longitudinal profiles attached to ribs running about an inner circumference of the skin, the ribs connected to said outer skin,

wherein each of said floor modules comprises at least a first and a second transverse beams that extend across of a width of said aircraft, each end of said transverse beams resting on an upper surface of a respective one of said longitudinal profiles,

each of said floor modules comprises a plurality of profile elements that extend in a longitudinal direction of said aircraft along a respective upper surface of at least one of said floor modules, said plurality of profile elements comprising at least one peripheral profile located at an edge region of the respective floor module proximate to said outer skin; and

said at least one peripheral profile is connected to said outer skin by means of a plurality of intermediate elements such that forces in said longitudinal direction of said aircraft are transferred from said at least one peripheral profile to said outer skin, whereas forces perpendicular to said longitudinal direction of said aircraft are transferred ~~only very slightly to said outer skin by said intermediate elements to the~~ ribs, wherein at least one of said longitudinal ~~beams~~ profiles and said ribs comprise at least one of bores, rapid-closure elements and similar fixation devices for attachment of the floor modules thereto.

4. (Currently Amended) An aircraft having a fuselage comprising an outer skin, said fuselage comprising multiple barrel-shaped fuselage sections, said aircraft comprising:

a cargo compartment being adapted to receive loads and comprising a plurality of floor modules, which are fixed within the cargo compartment and define a cargo deck, and

a plurality of longitudinal profiles attached to ribs running about an inner circumference of the skin, the ribs connected to said outer skin,

wherein each of said floor modules comprises at least a first and a second transverse beams that extend across of a width of said aircraft, each end of said transverse beams resting on an upper surface of a respective one of said longitudinal profiles, each of said floor modules comprises a plurality of profile elements that extend in a longitudinal direction of said aircraft along a respective upper surface of at least one of said floor modules, said plurality of profile elements comprising at least one peripheral profile located at an edge region of the respective floor module proximate to said outer skin; and

said at least one peripheral profile is connected to said outer skin by means of a plurality of intermediate elements such that forces in said longitudinal direction of said aircraft are transferred from said at least one peripheral profile to said outer skin, whereas forces perpendicular to said longitudinal direction of said aircraft are transferred ~~only very slightly to said outer skin by said intermediate elements~~ to the ribs.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) Cargo deck according to claim 1, wherein said modules are decoupled from one another with respect to forces acting in the long direction of the aircraft.

11-31. (Cancelled)

32. (Previously Presented) The aircraft of claim 1, wherein
a bottom surface of said at least one peripheral profile abuts an upper surface of said at least one of said plurality of intermediate elements.

33. (Previously Presented) The aircraft of claim 1, wherein
said longitudinal profiles and said intermediate elements are manufactured from a sheet material.

34. (Currently Amended) An aircraft having a fuselage comprising an outer skin, said fuselage comprising multiple barrel-shaped fuselage sections, said aircraft comprising:

a cargo compartment being adapted to receive loads and comprising a plurality of floor modules, which are fixed within the cargo compartment and define a cargo deck,
and

a plurality of longitudinal profiles attached to ribs running about an inner circumference of the skin, the ribs connected to said outer skin,

wherein each of said floor modules comprises at least a first and a second transverse beams that extend across of a width of said aircraft, each end of said transverse beams resting on an upper surface of a respective one of said longitudinal profiles, wherein said transverse beams comprise at least one of either bores and rapid-closure elements for attaching said floor modules to said longitudinal profiles;

each of said floor modules comprises a plurality of profile elements that extend in a longitudinal direction of said aircraft along a respective upper surface of at least one of said floor modules, said plurality of profile elements comprising at least one peripheral profile located at an edge region of the respective floor module proximate to said outer skin; and

said at least one peripheral profile is connected to said outer skin by means of a plurality of intermediate elements such that forces in said longitudinal direction of said aircraft are transferred from said at least one peripheral profile to said outer skin, whereas forces perpendicular to said longitudinal direction of said aircraft are transferred ~~only very slightly to said outer skin by said intermediate elements,~~ to the ribs wherein at least one of said longitudinal ~~beams~~ profiles and said ribs comprise at least one of bores, rapid-closure elements and similar fixation devices for attachment of the floor modules thereto.